



IRON FIREMAN

Iron Man

PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES OF IRON FIREMAN MANUFACTURING COMPANY, PORTLAND, OREG

VOL. 6, NO. 9

MARCH, 1949

IRON FIREMAN MANUFACTURING CO. PORTLAND, OREGON

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

March 16, 1949

TO IRON FIREMAN EMPLOYEES:

Our 1948 Annual Report is being mailed to the stockholders today, and I would like to take this opportunity of reviewing some of the highlights of the year's operations as brought out in this report.

Although the Sales Departments did an all high peacetime sales job of \$13,227,167.92, which represented an increase of 3.2% over 1947 sales of \$12,810,541.89, in 1948 we earned a net profit of only \$701,225.05, as compared with the net profit for 1947 of \$944,028.68, so that whereas our net sales were higher in 1948, our profits were lower by \$242,803.63, a reduction of 25.7%. This profit of \$701,225.05 represents total earnings from all sources and is broken down as follows:

Overall profit on sale of heating equipment in the three manufacturing branches - Portland, Cleveland and Toronto - in the United States and Canada	\$467,398.76
Overall profit on Heating Control operations of controls, tank thermostats and On-A-Lite	65,198.76
Overall profit on Boeing Operations	3,982.60
Overall profit on Foreign Business	811.39
Overall profit on Retail Branch Operations	101,239.70
Investment Income - not from operations	62,593.84
	<u>\$701,225.05</u>

To put this another way, our profit amounted to just a fraction over 5¢ on each dollar of business, and of this amount our stockholders received 3% in dividends and 2% was left in the business for working capital and expansion. Our costs of operation included materials of 46%; paid out in wages 27%; selling, administrative and general expense 18%; and taxes 1%.

This is a snapshot picture of Iron Fireman Manufacturing Co. operations for the year 1948. A number of copies of the full Annual Report are available to any of the employees who wish a more detailed report.

Yours very truly,

T. H. Banfield
T. H. BANFIELD
President

PLANT 1 SETS UP HOUSEKEEPING PROGRAM

Is your wife a good house keeper? "Of course she is," you will say, bristling a little, "or I wouldn't have married her."

Sure she is. She is the one who is always after you to pick up your clothes, put your tools away, clean up the basement, etc.

Did you ever watch her clean off the table, wash the dishes, glassware, pots and pans and silverware? What does she do with them? She carefully puts them all away in their proper places — the pans in one cupboard, the plates in another, knives, forks and spoons in a drawer, etc. She's going to use them again in a few hours, but still she puts them carefully away.

She's smart. She knows that you and the rest of the family would be very unhappy if the house was always cluttered up, messy and dirty. You wouldn't get much pleasure out of your home (which, by the way, has more things in it per square foot

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GOOD HOUSEKEEPING !



"Ah'd rather strain mah back pickin' stuff up da' bust it when Ah trips an' falls down"

The Good Humor Man

An Editorial by Jim Collins

Was your coffee stone cold this morning by the time you groped your way around the kitchen table and found it? And then did it taste like lye because it was left over



Jim Collins

from yesterday afternoon when the missus entertained a neighbor? Did you trip over little Calamity's taylor-tot in the front hall and fumble around in the closet only to discover that your number one child had carried off, not one, but both your rubbers? Did you do everything up brown by falling down the front steps on your way to work? Cheer up! All may not be lost. There may be compensations yet in a day that starts out so drearily.

For one thing, there's a sadistic sort of comfort in knowing that you don't have to cope with Calamity and her younger brother all day long. Even though you couldn't find your rubbers, there's every possibility in the world that your wife won't be able to find the vacuum cleaner when she wants it.

You can look at fairly presentable secretaries all day if you want to, when she is confined to fleeting glimpses of the garbage man and the milk man, both of whom are old, homely, married, and smell of, respectively, garbage and cow manure. You may at least get a whiff of "White Shoulders" cologne.

It doesn't take a lot of imagination to see the good things about you — though sometimes it takes the strength of a herd of elephants to tear off that old veil of sameness surrounding them. No one really expects you to pick yourself out of a mud puddle with a chuckle and say, "What fun". Nor do you have to go around from day to day with a fixed grin on your puss.

But a little cheer spread around (not necessarily liquid) makes people think you're an amiable sort of guy, and pretty soon, before they know it, they're smiling themselves, and the old shop seems like a good place to be after all. And pretty soon you've stopped feeling bitter about the morning coffee.

Of course, this is a purely academic discussion — I don't drink the stuff myself, but you get the idea.

Plant 1 Sets Up Housekeeping Program

(Continued from Page 1)

than most manufacturing plants) if it were not orderly, neat and clean.

She keeps us in line at home, that is, when she's around. But what happens when she is away for a few days? Sure, dishes pile up, the floor isn't swept, ashes on the rug, papers and magazines strewn around, etc. Of course we excuse ourselves by saying we aren't supposed to be housekeep-

ers. But aren't we? or at least shouldn't we be? We have many of the same problems every day on the job.

We spend about one-fourth of our time on the job — or let's put it this way. We consider 70 years as an average lifetime. What happens to the average person in those 70 years?

He sleeps about 23 years, eats about 6 years, dresses for about 2 years, goes to church for about one year, is ill about four years, has about 9 years for pleasure and amusements, travels to and from work six years, and works 19

(Continued on Page 5)



RIDE WANTED: New girl at Retail wishes ride to work from Lake Grove. Call Jo George.

FOR SALE: 14 ft. Mead Kiyak. Aluminum Ribs. Weight about 40 lbs. Excellent Duck boat. Car top carrier and paddles. See Elkins, mills, on swing, Plant 1.

FOR SALE: New .45 Colt Automatic. Government Model (not G. I. issue). Never been fired. \$75.00. Includes 2 boxes (100) cartridges and holster. See Lloyd Anderson at MAGNA-FLUX or ROCKWELL INSPECTION. Plant 1.

FOR SALE: 1 Jersey heifer - 9 months. \$75. 1 brand new Kaiser automatic dish washer. \$75. 1 new M1 automatic pistol with shells. 4 boxes. \$50. See Jacob Weber. Lathes, Plant 1.

PUPS FOR SALE: Boston Toy Terriers. Purebred, but not registered. S. Maurice Seibert, Tool Grinding, Plant 1.

FOR SALE: Doors, One 1-5/8" x 34-3/4" x 6-7/8" — 15 pane outside door. One 1-5/8" x 30" x 6-5/8" — 15 pane door. Reasonable. See Al Shankland, Inspection, Plant 1.

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IRON MAN

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December, 1948

Published bimonthly by the employees of the Iron Fireman Manufacturing Company, Portland, Oregon

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Member, Pacific Northwest Industrial Editors Association

RAMBLINGS from Retail

By Jim Collins

The news around Retail of late is that we have added about eight hundred square feet of floor space to our office. Yes — what do you know? Heating Control isn't the only branch of this organization that has some new building to talk about. If you haven't been over here to see us, you are very welcome to come over and look around. Or at least take a quick peek in through our new 6 x 14 foot show window while you're driving down 17th Avenue.

We have a working model of the "twin system" set up on the floor in this new sales room for heating the entire office area. A "baby twin system" is set up on the floor also and will be used for cooling in the summer (that is, if we are to have some summer). These two units are permanently attached to the duct-work system in the office and will be used for display and demonstration purposes, as well as heating and ventilating. The boiler will be fired with the Vortex oil burner, of course. Other units, such as the FOV-130, the new FFV-85, the deluxe stoker, the industrial oil burner model and many other pieces of equipment will be set up on the floor for display purposes.

Other highlights of the remodeling work include a new eight by twelve brick flue, a reception counter, and a complete paint job for the entire office area. Yes, sir, the Retail office is really open for big business now.

To further prove that we are really open for business, we have two new faces added to our business office. From out Lake Grove way comes Jo George. She is working in the fuel oil department here, and keeping all those accounts straight is a big job for a little gal only 5'2". But when Jo sits down at our big calculator and starts putting it through its paces, you know that no one is going to put anything over on her.

Our other new employee is Dorothy Hockhalter from right here in Sellwood district. She is doing general office work and helping office manager Faris out of those bookkeeping snowdrifts at the 25th of the month.



THIS IS HARD



BUT THIS IS EASY

AND THIS IS
MIGHTY WONDERFUL



Sure, you believe in saving.

But it's mighty hard to make yourself take cash out of your pocket, and time out of your day, to do it regularly.

The sure way, the *easy* way to do your saving is to get started on an *automatic* savings plan with U. S. Savings Bonds. Like this . . .

If you're on a payroll, sign up in the Payroll Savings Plan; then forget it. From then on the money saves itself—so much per

week, or so much per month.

In just ten years after you start buying bonds, your money starts coming back to you—well-fattened!

Every \$3 you invest today brings you back \$4 to make possible all the wonderful things you dream of doing.

And remember—any time you need your money for emergencies, you can get it back in *minutes* without losing interest.

Automatic saving is sure saving—U.S. Savings Bonds

Contributed by this magazine in co-operation with the Magazine Publishers of America as a public service.



YOU can sign up for bonds by filling out a form now available in the Personnel Departments, or in the office at Retail. It's easy — and the bonds make a wonderful way to save.

Ed LaFortune seems to get his name in every edition of this paper, so we won't bother to mention that he has just returned from a three week vacation in sometimes sunny California.

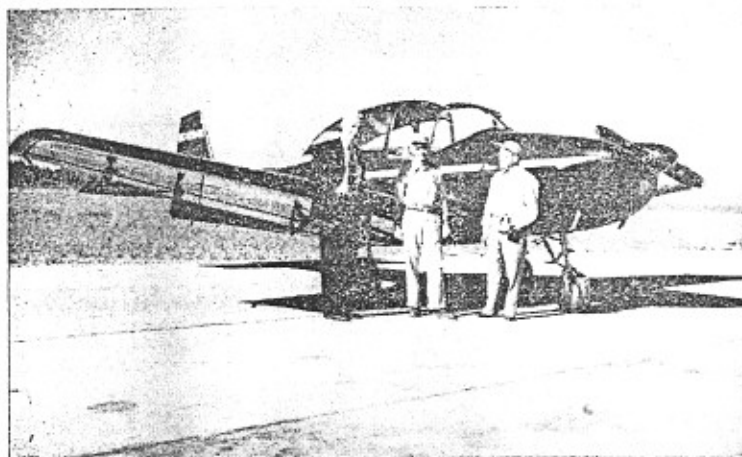
House warmings are in order for the Retail gang. Frank Farris has just moved into a new home out on 135th near Stark. He is hoping that by moving out there in the country he will be able to shoot a buck or two in his back yard next fall. Jim Nasser, steamfitter foreman, has moved his family of four

into a new home just a few blocks from the office. He really loves his work here, so he just had to move in closer to it.

Well, so much for the ramblings from Retail, and remember, if you get a chance, ramble over this way and take a look at our new addition. . . .

Pop: "My goodness, you ask a lot of questions! I'd like to know what would have happened if I'd asked as many questions when I was a boy."

Son: "Maybe you'd have been able to answer some of mine."



Plane which Glenn Miller, Heating Control employee, flew to Fair-Rugged terrain encountered in the Rockies during mass flight from banks with air group sponsored by the Portland Chamber of Commerce, Portland to Fairbanks, Alaska.

ALASKA BOUND, VIA AIR

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to fly over our great Northwest and see Nature's beauty at its best? Well, Glenn Miller, who works at Heating Control, piloted one of the thirteen planes which made this beautiful, and at times daring, flight over the wilds of Canada and Alaska. Under the auspices of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, this group of thirty-two left Portland Air Base en route to Fairbanks, Alaska on a balmy morning last July.

Glenn flew with W. T. Peters, owner and co-pilot of a Ryan-Navion. They spent the first evening in Calgary, Alberta, where the group was honored at a wild game banquet given by the Calgary Board of Trade (equivalent to our Chamber of Commerce).

With perfect flying weather, the group moved on to Dawson Creek, where they had lunch and were interviewed by the local radio station. From Dawson Creek on, they were in rugged territory and used the Alcan Highway as their constant guide.

They spent their next evening at Ft. Nelson, one of the many Royal Canadian Air Force bases scattered through Northwest Canada. These outposts were well stocked and the party enjoyed all the comforts of home, including good food and beds with sheets. Between Ft. Nelson and Watson Lake they spent fifteen minutes flying time passing through smoke of a seemingly unattended, raging forest fire deep in the Canadian territory, and coupled with the worst weather of their trip, this leg of the journey was most exciting. Having heard of the wonderful fishing, members of the group were constantly trying their luck at the sport, but the natives' advice to try just a little further north finally became a standing joke because if they had gone any further north, they would have been going south — and they never did catch any fish!

On the next hop, they landed at White Horse, Yukon territory (still in Canada) and although the town was small, there were many sights for all the visitors to see. The most interest-

ing was the original old Yukon Steamer, which was the first steamer to navigate the rough waters of the Yukon river, the northernmost navigable river of North America. It now stands in dry dock to be seen by all visitors in White Horse.

Next stop was North Way, Alaska small base manned by the U. S. Air Force, which was a refueling stop for the last northerly flight of the trip. Although small, it was good to see this outpost in the midst of the seemingly velvety carpet of green; and the next stop, Fairbanks, although no larger than Gresham, seemed like a full-grown metropolis.

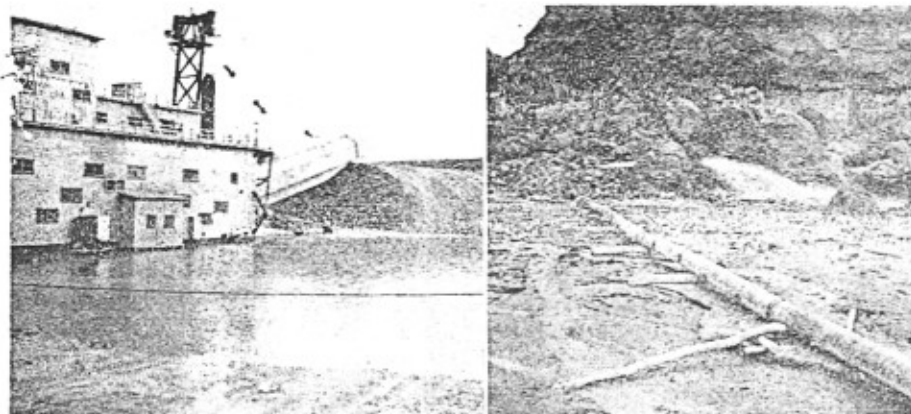
Fairbanks, primarily a mining town, was host to the Portland group for a week. Trips were taken to the mines where great streams of water are used to wash the gold from the soil. This soil, at the time Glenn was in Fairbanks, had thawed four feet down, but the ground is usually frozen eighty feet deep. In the operations of hydraulic mining and the great dredge, which in itself produced more than one and a half million dollars worth of gold during the four-month season last year, decomposed and perfectly preserved prehistoric animals have been discovered.

The group also visited the first locomotive ever used in Alaska, the lodge at the foot of Mt. McKinley and many native wonders in and near Fairbanks.

The return trip followed the same flight plan as the northerly trip and was just as enjoyable and trouble free. The two-week trip totaled about 7,500 air miles, and as you can see from the pictures, was a thrill from beginning to end.



Typical RCAF outpost visited by the flying Portlanders.



The flying vacationers visited modern methods of mining gold in Fairbanks, Alaska.
Left: One of the world's largest dredges. Right: Hydraulic mining.

Plant 1 Sets Up Housekeeping Program

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years. That isn't far from what we actually do.

If we must work 19 years, we should at least make this time more enjoyable by spending our time in clean, orderly surroundings.

How can we do this? Our wives aren't around to do the housework or see that we do it. However, we do have somebody to sweep the floors. That leaves the machines, tools, fixtures, up to us individually to take care of. If we wish to improve our individual lot.

As this affects our health, and safety, cuts down on fire hazards, eliminates waste, contributes to efficiency, our personal satisfaction and happiness, why shouldn't we?

Dirt and disorder go together. So the first step is to get order. There isn't

any subject in anyone's life that should be given more consideration than order. It's the most important thing in your business life and in your personal life.

Just what is order? It is the arrangement of time, materials, tools and equipment so work can be done. There are two kinds of order; the order of time and the order of things. The latter is what we want to cover.

The first step is to get all unnecessary things off the floor and machines, and out of the work area. All

tools, jigs, fixtures, etc. that are not currently in use should be returned to their proper storage places. Clothing should not be hung on or near machines.

Second, the machines should be kept clean, insofar as possible, and hand tools should be checked over and cleaned periodically. Broken or splintered handles can be very dangerous, so they should be promptly replaced. Oil leaks in the machines should be promptly reported and taken care of.

The importance of keeping all guards in working order and in place cannot be overemphasized, since this affects the safety of all other employees, as well as the operator himself.

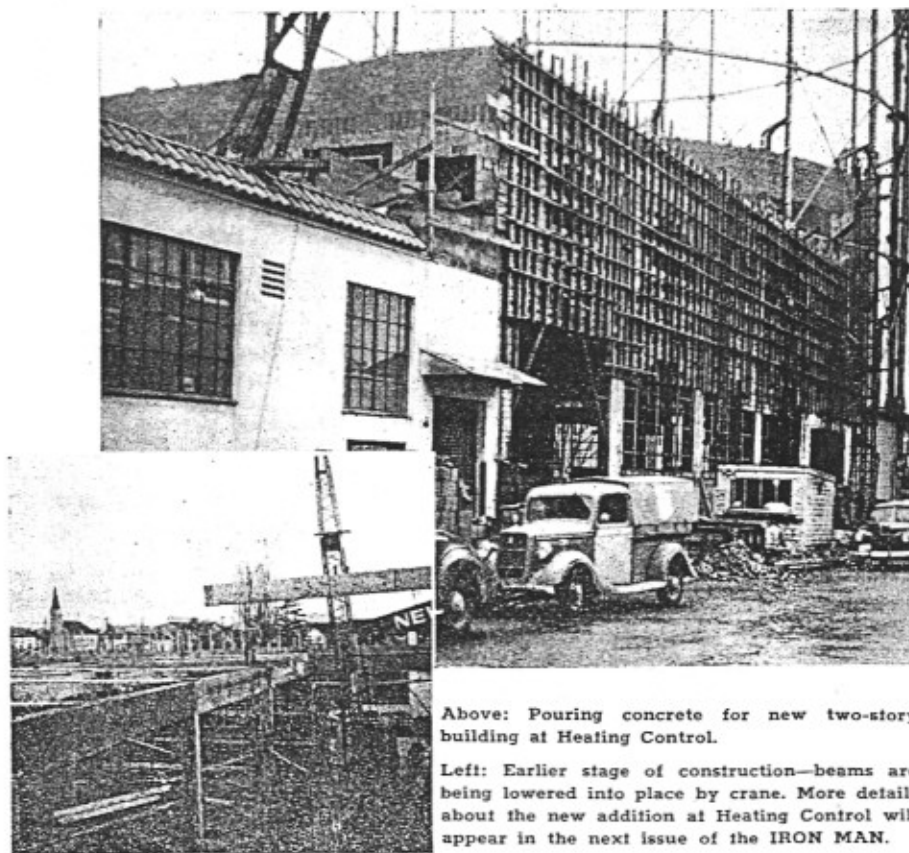
Keeping aisles clear is largely the job of the trucking department, but each operator can help by keeping his own work area clear and thus provide space for necessary part boxes.

Last, but not least, be sure to keep oily rags and oily waste in metal containers provided for this purpose and to take necessary precautions in handling and storing materials and solutions of a flammable nature.

Yes, there is a great deal that each individual in the shop can do to aid in good housekeeping — and good housekeeping helps to make our shop a better place to work.

Now that things are really humming in the shop — with close to 300 men and an increased amount of work — it is becoming more and more important for each foot of floor space to be properly utilized. Of course, much of the necessary work and improvements incidental to good housekeeping can best be handled by the maintenance department, but a great deal can be accomplished through the cooperation of each man in the shop.

This is the first in a series of articles on "Good Housekeeping" and will be followed by articles on other phases of the program.



Above: Pouring concrete for new two-story building at Heating Control.

Left: Earlier stage of construction—beams are being lowered into place by crane. More details about the new addition at Heating Control will appear in the next issue of the IRON MAN.



STRICTLY PERSONAL



Arnel McBroom's grandson, Jimmy Foss, 4 years old. McBroom is a janitor at Plant 1. Kathy Ann Garfield, 2 year old daughter of Grant Garfield, Tool Room, Plant 1.

Overheard outside Personnel: "How come you've got a new floor up here? Did Katy wear the old one out?"

The line of Half 'n Half tobacco cans is getting longer over the employee entrance. But **Bill Ruhlin** still hasn't explained where the stray Prince Albert came from.

Anyone wanting a washing done see **Bob Knapp**. He has a new G. E. Automatic washer and thinks it's wonderful!

FOR SALE: One ragged shopcoat. See **George Porter**.

How does **Vince Baker** rate? Winning the check pool twice in a row!

Henry Evers had an unfortunate experience several weeks ago when he cut off the end of his finger. (Secretly we wonder if he got tired of cutting his fingernails.) Seriously though, we're glad to have you back again, **Henry**, and hope your finger is well on the mend.

Turning night into day are **Art Gafner**, **Bob Knapp** and **Bord Salerno** who went on graveyard shift a couple of weeks ago.

Herb Taylor returned to work in Assembly a few weeks ago after a six-week absence including a stay in the hospital.

When **Mildred Smith** opened her door the last Friday of February, people started pouring into her house and she began to wonder if there was no end! Thirty-five girls from the office literally flooded her with gifts at a bridal shower planned by **Mary Foley**, **Anna Hohnstein** and **Mildred's** sister.

SIGNS OF SPRING —

- some of the boys playing catch during lunch hour.
- the gang eating lunch on the Personnel stairs.
- discussions, and occasional appearances, of print dresses among the girls.
- all the pruning, trimming and cleaning around the yards.
- the first crocus.

Have you heard **Earl Winkler** pouring out his heart in song? "How mild? How mild? How mild can a cigarette be? . . . " And he wasn't even smoking the brand he was singing about!

Catching everyone's eye is **Fred Groshong's** brand new yellow truck.

Adolph Olson has joined the ranks of the "proud grandpas" —and is he thrilled!

All the office girls present at the farewell luncheon for **Enid Nott** were pleasantly surprised when **Enid** invited them all to her house one evening in February. Of course the weather was acting up as usual, so only eight girls made it through the snow drifts — **Katy Niederer**, **Betty Caputo**, **Mary Linnebur**, **Elenore Anderson**, **Millie Bischoff**, **Dorothy Miller**, **Margaret Turner** and **Ruby Peterson** — but they had a delightful evening.

Rose Reuter has joined the staff of the insurance department.

Wonga Kyle is being kept busy learning the ins and outs of bookkeeping in the Order Dept. under **Dorothy John's** able coaching. And just recently **Margaret Sutton** began to learn how to keep track of all the bonds and insurance bought by I. F. M. employees, since **Betty Caputo** — and **Dorothy**, too — are leaving soon to await the arrival of the stork. (Hope it's a boy!)

Bill Clarke, **Lloyd Fitzsimmons**, **Dick Osweiler** and **Mary Putman** are really keeping the drawing boards in use in Tool Design, since they started work recently. Tool Design is really busy now.

Libby Tweedale and **Kenneth Baldus** are recent additions to **Mr. Cox's** department.

We'd like to extend a real Iron F man welcome to these new men in shop:

Wilfred Kyle, **Oswald Svehaug** and **Richard Collins** in Assembly.

Vern St. John, **Jacob Weber**, **Hanson Bailey** and **Diedrich Addicks** on Turret Lathes.

Jacob Jacoby, **Ceaser Borroz**, and **Dale McKrill**, in Burring.

Louis Strode, **Dale Dikeman**, **Henry Kalani** and **Ernest Tannler** on Mills.

Delbert Maulding on the Gear Machines.

George Hoffman and **Richard Garner** in Receiving.



Meet **Karen** and **Kathy**, **Don Charters'** twin daughters, who celebrated their first birthday January 23. They were 8 months old when these were taken in August. **Don** works in Inspection, Plant 1.

T H E R M O - - S T A T I C



Do you know who this is? He works at Heating Control but this was taken a number of years ago! If you haven't guessed by then, look in the next issue of the IRON MAN for the answer.

Sam M. Tola

If you're interested, glance further down this column to see why the girls in the production office continue to wear their snow boots long after the snow has disappeared.

She was told the art of snowballing is reserved for the young and agile, but Rosemary Surface, secretary in engineering, won't listen. RESULTS— a vertebra that had to be re-set — and she missed too.

We knew electrical contractors had to be treated just right these days, but since when did clients start giving them valentines? At least that's what Harold Mehlig's (electrical contractor for the new Heating Control addition) wife wants to know. And such sweet verses, too.

"Twasn't what you thought at all — they're trying to get their money's worth out of the boots.

Seems good to have Kathleen Hall back with us again. Three years is a long time.

Under a sign advertising "Ask the man who owns one", we found penciled, "he works at Iron Fireman". Someone else must have noticed the new Fords around the Heating Control Division.

Ruth Walsh has just returned from a two week visit with her mother who has been ill in Reedsport.

An Echo

I Sang a song of joy to one grown sad.
I sang it, then I walked my way apart
When, lo, in hours that were to me
less glad

It turned and echoed softly in my heart.

—Author Unknown

TRADING POST

(Continued from Page 2)

FOR SALE: Fruit trees. Ideal time for transplanting. Dwarf trees — good fruit bearers. Delicious apple, peach, pear, apricot. These trees are 3 years old. Have had fruit off them for 2 years. We paid \$5 to \$8 apiece for them. Will sell for \$5 each. See Ray LaVodie, turret lathes, days, Plant 1.

WANTED: Good, used, standard size pool table. See Al Shankland, Plant 1, Inspection.

FOR SALE: Drop leaf breakfast table and two chairs. \$10. See McBroom, Plant 1.

FOR SALE: 21 jewel Bulova man's wrist watch. Gold link band. 1½ years old. Excellent condition. Cost \$95, will sell for \$50. See Ray LaVodie, Turret Lathes, Plant 1.

"My fiance takes me to the museum every Saturday."

"Really? What is he studying?"

"Economy."

SAFE DISPOSAL OF FLUORESCENT LAMP TUBES

Several cases of beryllium poisoning reported to have resulted from cuts received while disposing of old fluorescent lamp tubes have lead to the publishing of approved methods for such disposal by the National Safety Council.

The hazards are three-fold: 1. dust of beryllium compounds may be inhaled; 2. cuts or scratches from broken tubes may retain some of the beryllium compounds; 3. mercury vapor may be inhaled.

It is suggested that methods used by the manufacturers of fluorescent lamps be followed wherever practical, if any large number must be disposed of. Tubes are dropped into an enclosed and ventilated crusher through a slot from the floor above. Dust collected is wet down and removed, as is the broken glass.

Where the number of tubes to be disposed of is small, the tubes can be placed in a burlap bag, immersed in water in a tank or trough and broken up with a crowbar or length of pipe. The bag is then dumped wet.

Use Lumpo soap. Doesn't lather. Doesn't bubble. Doesn't clean. It's just company in the tub.



Beverly (4 years old) and Davey (5½ months old), grandchildren of Nellie Nelson of Heating Control.